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BOOK REVIEWS



IN CHARGE OF

M. E. CAMERON

THE MIDWIFE'S PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY OF OBSTETRICAL AND GYNÆCOLOGICAL TERMS. Edited by Henry Robinson, A.M., M.D., Anæsthetist to the Cancer Hospital and to the Samaritan Hospital for Women; Late Resident Obstetric Officer at St. George's Hospital, etc. The Scientific Press, 28 and 29 Southampton St., Strand, London, W. C. Price one shilling.

This tiny volume has bound in with the rules for midwives approved by the Privy Council of Great Britain a list of such words and terms as the midwife may meet in her reading for the passing of her examinations before the Central Midwives Board. Perhaps its best recommendation is its brevity and its small form. It is easily carried about, but whether or not it should prove of value in an emergency is to be doubted. It is hardly likely to meet with much success in this country.

FUNCTIONAL DIAGNOSIS—THE APPLICATION OF PHYSIOLOGY TO DISEASE. By Thomas G. Atkinson, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology and Physiology, Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery; Professor, and Head of Department of Physiology, Chicago College of Dental Surgery; Editor of the *Medical Standard*; Author of "Essentials of Refraction." Publishers: Chicago Medical Book Co., Congress and Honore Sts., Chicago.

This work presents to the student of diagnosis the normal function and the derangement of function which characterizes disease. Every normal function of the body is briefly described, as in the ordinary text-book of physiology, and immediately following it are given the disorders or derangements to which these functions are subject.

The book is not opposed to the theory of the micro-organism as the cause of disease, but it rather protests against the immense importance which has of late been laid upon "laboratory findings" in the diagnosis of disease. It endeavors to go back still farther and to search out the earliest departure from the normal in the function and its "sequential

relation" to disease. "Physiology," says the author, "has of late made gigantic strides, and greatly enlarged the scope of its jurisdiction; there has been an equally growing tendency to divorce it from the mutual relations with other branches of medicine which have undergone similar expansion. It is in the hope of contributing, however feebly, to the re-establishment of these neglected relationships upon a practical clinical footing that this work on physiology is offered." Again, quoting another authority he says, "No anatomical research can pierce the secret of broken co-ordinations, and yet it is in these that a great part of disease begins or eventually comes to consist." It is with the consideration of these broken co-ordinations that the book concerns itself.

SHORT TALKS WITH YOUNG MOTHERS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN. By Charles Gilmore Kerley, M.D., Professor of Diseases of Children, New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital; Attending Physician to the New York Infant Asylum; Assistant Attending Physician to the Babies' Hospital, New York; Consulting Physician, New York Home for Crippled and Destitute Children; Consulting Pediatricist, Greenwich Hospital; Consulting Physician, Savilla Home, N. Y. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Illustrated. The Knickerbocker Press, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London.

Dr. Kerley's book is in its second edition a good deal enlarged and, if one may say so without disrespect to its first appearance, improved by its revision. It is a very sane and practical guide for such young mothers as may be seeking for light on the subject; and is particularly to be recommended for its freedom from technical terms and its strict adherence to an easy conversational style of writing suited to the understanding of the very youngest and most inexperienced in the ranks of motherhood.

The author first considers the "well baby," giving a vivid picture of what his young highness ought to be, how he ought to grow, and, if he fails in either of these, searching out the any and every possible reason.

Feeding is given by far the largest space in the book, and more especially maternal feeding. Artificial feeding receives due attention also, but is only recommended when the natural source is absolutely unattainable. In older children Dr. Kerley notes the capricious and fanciful appetite which is only too often allowed to become an enduring habit, so that the child has to go forth to the strenuous battle of life ill nourished and unable to cope with his fellows.